1	BEFORE THE	
2	ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMM	LSSION
3	IN THE MATTER OF	)
4	IN THE MATTER OF:	) )
5	ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY	) )
6	Application for review of alternative regulation plan.	) ) ) NO 00 0252
7		) NO. 98-0252 ) 98-0335 ) 00-0764
8	Petition to rebalance Illinois Bell Telephone	) ) )
9	Company's Carrier Access and Network Access Line Rates.	) )
10	CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD AND	) )
11	THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS	) )
12	vs. ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE	) )
13	COMPANY Verified Complaint for a	) )
14	Reduction in Illinois Bell Telephone Company's Rates	) )
15	and Other Relief.	)
16	Chiqago Illino	o i a
17	Chicago, Illinois January 21st, 2005	
18	Met pursuant to notice a	at 10:00 a.m.
19	BEFORE:	
20	EVE MORAN, Administrative Law	w Judge.
21	APPEARANCES:	
22	MS. LOUISE SUNDERLAND 225 West Randolph Street	

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       Chicago, Illinois 60606
             for Illinois Bell Telephone Co.;
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 3 APPEARANCES:
               (Continued)
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             for Citizens Utility Board;
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       MR. SEAN R. BRADY
       160 North LaSalle Street, Suite C-800
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             for Staff of the Illinois Commerce
 9 Commission;
       MR. JACK PACE
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       30 North LaSalle Street
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       Chicago, Illinois
             for City of Chicago;
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       MR. DOUGLAS W. TRABARIS
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       222 West Adams Street, Suite 1500
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             for AT&T Communications of Illinois, Inc.;
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       MS. SUSAN L. SATTER
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             for People of the State of Illinois;
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   SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by
 3 Kathleen Maloney, CSR
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- 1 JUDGE MORAN: Pursuant to the direction of the
- 2 Illinois Commerce Commission, I call Docket 98-0252,
- 3 98-0335, and 00-0764, all consolidated.
- 4 This is the Illinois Bell Telephone
- 5 Company's application for review of an alternative
- 6 regulation plan and a petition to rebalance Illinois
- 7 Bell Telephone Company's carrier access and network
- 8 access line rates.
- 9 It is also a complaint by the Citizens
- 10 Utility Board and the People of the State of
- 11 Illinois versus Illinois Bell Telephone Company for
- 12 a reduction in Illinois Bell Telephone Company's
- 13 rates and other relief.
- 14 This case -- or this docket, the
- 15 Commission's final order in this docket went up on
- 16 appeal to the Illinois Appellate Court, The Third
- 17 District.
- 18 The Court has entered an opinion in
- 19 No. 03-0207, which is consolidated with 03-0515.
- The Appellate Court's opinion --
- 21 MR. HARVEY: Is dated September 17th.
- 22 JUDGE MORAN: Thank you.

- 1 Considered the issues raised by SBCI and
- 2 affirms in part, reverses in part and has remanded
- 3 the cause with directions.
- 4 And we are here on the basis of that
- 5 remand.
- 6 Might I have the appearances for the
- 7 record please.
- 8 MR. HARVEY: Appearing for the staff of the
- 9 Illinois Commerce Commission, Matthew L. Harvey and
- 10 Sean R. Brady, 160 North LaSalle Street, Suite
- 11 C-800, Chicago, Illinois 60601-3104.
- 12 MS. NORRIS: On behalf of McCleod USA
- 13 Telecommunications Services, Inc., Samantha C.
- 14 Norris, Schiff, Harden, LLP, 6600 Sears Tower,
- 15 Chicago, Illinois 60606.
- 16 MR. TRABARIS: Appearing on behalf of AT&T
- 17 Communications of Illinois, Inc., Douglas Trabaris,
- 18 222 West Adams Street, Suite 1500, Chicago, Illinois
- 19 60606.
- 20 MS. SUNDERLAND: On behalf of Illinois Bell
- 21 Telephone Company, Louise A. Sunderland, 225 West
- 22 Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

- 1 JUDGE MORAN: Are you entering an appearance?
- 2 A VOICE: I am just observing.
- 3 MS. SUNDERLAND: He's observing.
- 4 JUDGE MORAN: That's fine.
- 5 MS. SATTER: Susan L. Satter, appearing on behalf
- 6 of the People of the State of Illinois, 100 West
- 7 Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601. My
- 8 telephone number is Area Code 312-814-1104.
- 9 MS. LUSSON: Karen L. Lusson, L-u-s-s-o-n, on
- 10 behalf of the Citizens Utility Board, 349 South
- 11 Kensington Avenue, LaGrange, Illinois 60525, Phone
- 12 No. 708-579-1529.
- MR. GOLDENBERG: Allan Goldenberg, assistant
- 14 state's attorney, on behalf of Cook County State's
- 15 Attorney's Office, 69 West Washington, Suite 3130,
- 16 Chicago, Illinois 60602.
- 17 MR. PACE: On behalf of City of Chicago, Jack
- 18 Pace, senior counsel, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite
- 19 900, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Phone No.
- 20 312-744-6997.
- 21 JUDGE MORAN: Let the record reflect that those
- 22 are all the appearances here today.

- 1 Well, at the outset, let me apologize to
- 2 the parties for the lateness of this first status on
- 3 the case.
- I incorrectly assumed that, when the
- 5 Court entered its opinion, it would go to the
- 6 Commission, the Commission would then direct or
- 7 initiate some kind of process through me.
- 8 Unbeknownst to me, it just comes directly
- 9 to me.
- 10 So while I was waiting for an order,
- 11 there is no such order, and I apologize if that has
- 12 put this case back.
- Now, have -- I assume that the parties
- 14 have all read the opinion and probably several
- 15 times, and are we ready to discuss it?
- 16 MS. SUNDERLAND: Sure.
- MR. TRABARIS: Yes, your Honor.
- 18 JUDGE MORAN: Okay. Who would like to start?
- 19 MS. SUNDERLAND: Shall I start?
- 20 JUDGE MORAN: Sure.
- 21 MS. SUNDERLAND: Well, there were basically two
- 22 issues that went up on appeal, one having to do with

- 1 the wholesale remedy plan and the other having to do
- 2 with the infrastructure investment obligation that
- 3 was imposed by the Commission's final order in this
- 4 proceeding.
- 5 The Court reversed both of those,
- 6 although on different grounds.
- 7 The wholesale remedy plan was reversed
- 8 basically on BIE, B-I-E, grounds to the extent that
- 9 it would have applied to any carrier that didn't
- 10 have an interconnection -- that didn't have an
- 11 interconnection agreement.
- The infrastructure obligation was
- 13 reversed on the grounds that there was no evidence
- 14 to support it.
- 15 So because the Commission's order was
- 16 affirmed in part and reversed in part, the Appellate
- 17 Court remanded the case to the Commission with
- 18 directions, and the directions are, and I am quoting
- 19 from the order, "to enter an order consistent with
- 20 this opinion."
- 21 I think the situation is probably a
- 22 little different with respect to each of these two

- 1 appellate issues. The wholesale remedy plan is now
- 2 moot.
- 3 It was superceded in the 271 docket by
- 4 the 271 plan so that I don't know that -- other than
- 5 removing the requirement, I don't know that there is
- 6 anything that really needs to be done about that.
- 7 On the infrastructure obligation, we
- 8 understand the Court to be pretty clear that all
- 9 that there is to be done is to remove that and the
- 10 associated discussion and any ordering clauses from
- 11 the order that would impose that \$600 million per
- 12 year obligation on the company.
- 13 So as SBC Illinois sees it, all that
- 14 remains to be done is for the Commission to issue an
- 15 amendatory order consistent with this opinion.
- 16 JUDGE MORAN: Okay.
- 17 MR. TRABARIS: Your Honor, just to add a couple
- 18 of things on top of what SBC has stated, AT&T is not
- 19 taking any position whatsoever on the infrastructure
- 20 spending portion of the order.
- 21 We are only taking a position on the
- 22 remedy plan portion.

- 1 And with that, our position is pretty
- 2 close to SBC's.
- 4 Court affirmed the Commission's decision applying
- 5 the remedy plan as a part of SBC's alternative
- 6 regulation plan but reversed only on the narrow
- 7 grounds where, as counsel for SBC corrected stated,
- 8 the particular competitive local exchange carrier
- 9 did not have an interconnection agreement.
- 10 So we think it's more of an affirmation
- 11 than a reversal.
- But with that said, we think that there's
- 13 nothing to proceed on with regard to the remedy plan
- 14 either.
- 15 JUDGE MORAN: Okay.
- 16 MR. TRABARIS: So we would recommend against
- 17 having any kind of proceeding prior to issuance of a
- 18 proposed order.
- 19 JUDGE MORAN: Okay.
- 20 MR. HARVEY: I think perhaps from the staff's
- 21 perspective, our take on the pure legal issues is
- 22 approximately similar to SBC's and AT&T's as stated.

- 1 That having been said, the one thing we
- 2 would note is whatever we do do, we have to do by
- 3 May 16, 2005, and the last Commission meeting prior
- 4 to that is May 10, 2005.
- 5 So whatever we do I think we have to work
- 6 backward from there.
- JUDGE MORAN: Yeah, and maybe even backward from
- 8 there because I don't want to give them this on the
- 9 last --
- 10 MR. HARVEY: There are Commission meetings in May
- 11 on the 3rd and 4th as well.
- 12 As I say, the staff is not convinced that
- 13 there's a whole lot to do here.
- We have prepared a schedule on the
- 15 assumption that our view will not necessarily be
- 16 universally held. I have a copy of that. I am not
- 17 necessarily advocating that this be the schedule. I
- 18 just sort of throw it out as something that would
- 19 get us --
- 20 JUDGE MORAN: You just had some time on your
- 21 hands.
- MR. HARVEY: In my copious free time, I, you

- 1 know, put together this schedule just because of the
- 2 absolute statutory deadline that we are under here.
- 3 JUDGE MORAN: Uh-huh. Does anybody have any
- 4 comments about the remedy plan issue?
- 5 MS. SATTER: Nothing on the remedy plan.
- 6 JUDGE MORAN: Okay. With that, I will direct SBC
- 7 to prepare a draft -- draft order language on how we
- 8 would address that issue for the Commission.
- 9 MR. TRABARIS: Your Honor, if I could ask --
- 10 JUDGE MORAN: Yes, you can help.
- 11 MR. TRABARIS: I would volunteer AT&T to work
- 12 with SBC on this.
- 13 JUDGE MORAN: Absolutely.
- 14 MR. TRABARIS: We will be happy to review their
- 15 draft, and once we reach agreement on the draft, we
- 16 could cosponsor with them.
- 17 MS. SUNDERLAND: It may be that we and AT&T don't
- 18 see completely eye to eye on exactly what the impact
- 19 of the order was on the remedy plan and remedy
- 20 payments prior to the 271 order, but I think we are
- 21 in complete agreement that it's moot.
- 22 MR. HARVEY: I think to the extent that those

- 1 discussions are taking place, staff would certainly
- 2 seek to be a part of them at the risk of adding
- 3 additional cooks to an already, you know, somewhat
- 4 overstrained broth, but, in any case, we would -- we
- 5 feel that we have an interest in that.
- 6 JUDGE MORAN: Absolutely.
- 7 MR. HARVEY: We certainly want to take part in
- 8 those discussions.
- 9 JUDGE MORAN: That makes me even happier.
- 10 MS. SATTER: We have looked at the appeal,
- 11 obviously, and on the investment requirement, we
- 12 believe that the Commission at this point can -- can
- 13 and should take additional evidence to satisfy the
- 14 requirement that the Court put on, that the evidence
- 15 was insufficient as it was presented to the Court.
- 16 Although we think the evidence was sufficient,
- 17 that's neither here nor there, but we think that the
- 18 Commission should have the opportunity to reconsider
- 19 the requirement which it clearly has the power to
- 20 do, and so we would like to have the opportunity to
- 21 present some additional evidence on the basis for
- 22 the amount of the investment requirement because

- 1 that was the problem.
- The Court said, Commission, you have the
- 3 power to impose an investment requirement because
- 4 that had been the first argument on appeal, but on
- 5 this particular record, we don't see sufficient
- 6 evidence so we would like the opportunity on this
- 7 remand to offer additional evidence on that. And I
- 8 believe that's been done on remands in the past.
- 9 And on the question of timing, I notice
- 10 that Matt has the statute, and my understanding is
- 11 it's in 10-201.
- 12 MR. HARVEY: 201 E-4.
- 13 MS. SATTER: And my recollection, without looking
- 14 at the statute, and I think we should check it, is
- 15 that the Commission is directed to enter an order
- 16 within five or six months.
- 17 JUDGE MORAN: I believe it's five months.
- 18 MS. SATTER: Five months and then --
- 19 MR. HARVEY: No. It's actually six. The five is
- 20 I think what -- is the rehearing period.
- 21 The six months --
- 22 MS. SATTER: The Commission has the discretion to

- 1 an interim order at six months.
- 2 JUDGE MORAN: Yes.
- 3 MR. HARVEY: Within five months after.
- 4 MS. SATTER: And then within the next five or six
- 5 months do the final.
- 6 So in cases where there are remands and
- 7 hearings are required, often that full amount of
- 8 time is used. So I just want to make sure that we
- 9 are all on the same page that the statute does have
- 10 that flexibility in it.
- MR. HARVEY: Well, I think we are on the same
- 12 page that there is a provision whereby the
- 13 Commission can with leave of Court obtain an
- 14 additional five months' extension.
- 15 I am -- as I read the statute, which --
- 16 JUDGE MORAN: I am sure that we have to go back
- 17 to the Court. I have seen that done in other remand
- 18 things that I have been involved in.
- MR. HARVEY: I, frankly, don't propose to ask the
- 20 Commission to get leave of Court.
- 21 JUDGE MORAN: If we don't have to, we don't want
- 22 to. That's more of a safety valve than anything

- 1 else.
- 2 MS. SATTER: If we schedule a period of time for
- 3 hearings directly, we probably could do it in May or
- 4 do it by May, and I am not trying to postpone it.
- 5 JUDGE MORAN: But my concern is that we have to
- 6 frame the issue.
- 7 If the parties are interested in having
- 8 more evidence --
- 9 MS. SUNDERLAND: Well --
- 10 JUDGE MORAN: Let me finish my thought because I
- 11 have been thinking this through.
- 12 The Court said that it had -- at the time
- 13 that it looked at the Commission's order found that
- 14 there was evidence of need for investment, the
- 15 Commission's order had indicated that.
- I think we have to look today as to
- 17 whether that need exists and then look if that need,
- 18 and that need being an improvement to service
- 19 quality, can only be addressed by network or
- 20 infrastructure investment.
- 21 Do the parties agree with me on that?
- 22 That's my view of the situation.

- 1 MR. HARVEY: As I understand the way you are
- 2 framing the issue, Judge, you are suggesting that,
- 3 first of all, the evidence taken, if any, should
- 4 relate to matters as they currently exist rather
- 5 than --
- 6 JUDGE MORAN: I mean, you would have to. We
- 7 can't go back and form an investment requirement
- 8 today based on need that existed -- I don't even
- 9 remember when this case --
- 10 MS. SUNDERLAND: 2000.
- 11 JUDGE MORAN: -- was heard.
- 12 MR. HARVEY: Yeah. It was early 2000.
- 13 JUDGE MORAN: That would be absurd. That would
- 14 be an absurd construction.
- 15 MR. HARVEY: I think staff would concur in that
- 16 conclusion.
- 17 As I further understand your framing of
- 18 the issue, the question of infrastructure investment
- 19 is one that you would propose to resolve with
- 20 respect to whether it is -- whether service quality
- 21 issues necessitate it or whether service quality
- 22 issues are -- can and are being resolved in some

- 1 other manner.
- JUDGE MORAN: Uh-huh.
- 3 MR. HARVEY: Such as would obviate the need for
- 4 infrastructure investment.
- 5 JUDGE MORAN: Uh-huh. Uh-huh. That's the way I
- 6 see it.
- 7 First you have got to identify that the
- 8 problem still exists, and then, if it does exist, is
- 9 it a problem that's resolved by additional monies or
- 10 is it something else? You know, it's all those
- 11 steps. That's what I think we have to look at.
- 12 MS. SATTER: I have to admit I read it a little
- 13 bit differently. Particularly on Page 18 they say,
- 14 you know, we begin by noting there is some evidence
- 15 to support the need for the capital spending
- 16 requirement.
- 17 JUDGE MORAN: Right. And there was at that time.
- 18 MS. SATTER: So you are saying -- if we are going
- 19 to go back and look at this issue on a factual
- 20 basis, let's look at it today.
- 21 JUDGE MORAN: Exactly.
- 22 MS. SATTER: And I don't disagree with that.

- 1 MR. PACE: I would just say on behalf of the City
- 2 of Chicago, I would have to think about that.
- 3 Only -- I am just thinking out loud here because I
- 4 haven't considered your issue in that the original
- 5 order called for a five-year spending plan based on
- 6 the evidence at the time and we would be in the
- 7 third year of that spending plan.
- 8 So I guess what I am saying is that there
- 9 was a decision two years ago requiring a spending
- 10 plan for five years, and if we look at the evidence
- 11 only today, you know, I am not sure how that impacts
- 12 that decision.
- 13 Are we reviewing the plan entirely now
- 14 based on the evidence today?
- 15 All I am saying is I would have to think
- 16 about that issue a little bit before I could make
- 17 a -- take a position on it.
- 18 JUDGE MORAN: All right.
- 19 MS. SUNDERLAND: I would just sort of note that
- 20 we have been under the merge order spending plan
- 21 throughout this period in any event.
- 22 JUDGE MORAN: Okay.

- 1 MS. SUNDERLAND: So --
- 2 JUDGE MORAN: All right. And you know what,
- 3 maybe all of you can get together and discuss some
- 4 of these little --
- 5 MS. SUNDERLAND: I was going to say we are
- 6 opposed to reopening the record and taking
- 7 additional evidence.
- 8 JUDGE MORAN: Okay. Let me write that down.
- 9 MS. SUNDERLAND: We think that the Court's
- 10 opinion is clear that they reversed it and that's
- 11 consistent with 10-201 where there's insufficient
- 12 evidence the PUA contemplates that the Court will
- 13 simply reverse it and although --
- 14 JUDGE MORAN: Then you have to do that statutory
- 15 construction.
- 16 You have to treat this order like any
- 17 other law or legal document and look through the
- 18 case law and indicate just what this language means.
- 19 That's another way of doing it.
- 20 I am not --
- 21 MS. SUNDERLAND: My view is that the only reason
- 22 it was remanded was because it was part of a larger

- 1 order and they were not reversing the entire order.
- 2 JUDGE MORAN: I'm not saying that that argument
- 3 is not viable based on my reading also, but someone
- 4 is going to have to support it well with a proper
- 5 construction.
- 6 MS. NORRIS: Can I just chime in for McCleod USA?
- 7 We don't really have a position on the
- 8 infrastructure obligation, but before it gets too
- 9 late and I forget to do this, on the wholesale
- 10 remedy plan, we, you know, would like to participate
- 11 with AT&T, SBC and staff in drafting that order and
- 12 commenting on it.
- 13 JUDGE MORAN: Absolutely.
- 14 You know, without --
- 15 MS. SUNDERLAND: So we can -- if we can submit
- 16 agreed-upon language --
- 17 JUDGE MORAN: Someone can start with a draft and
- 18 then everyone -- we've done this before. Everyone
- 19 can chip in or you can work on it together in a
- 20 room. I don't care how you do it.
- 21 That is the right way to do it. That way
- 22 everybody is happy and -- when something can be

- 1 agreed upon, that's the best. That's the best-case
- 2 scenario.
- 3 MR. BRADY: Going back to the investment
- 4 requirement and if it's a -- a two-prong attack,
- 5 first is there a service quality problem still in
- 6 existence today is what I understood you to say.
- 7 Maybe I am just saying the obvious, but I
- 8 would think there would be a significant amount of
- 9 discovery trying to determine, you know, what has
- 10 been transpiring over the last --
- 11 JUDGE MORAN: Uh-huh.
- 12 MR. BRADY: -- whatever period of time, year or
- 13 two, depending on what period people think they need
- 14 to determine the level of service. So I just throw
- 15 that out as an impact on our scheduling in this
- 16 docket.
- 17 MS. SUNDERLAND: We do report our service quality
- 18 results on a regular basis to the Commission so this
- 19 is hardly a secret that our service quality has been
- 20 very good.
- 21 JUDGE MORAN: So then there is stuff --
- MS. SUNDERLAND: They've got it.

- 1 JUDGE MORAN: -- easily available --
- 2 MS. SUNDERLAND: Yeah.
- 3 JUDGE MORAN: -- to look at and to be put in the
- 4 record. That's good.
- 5 MR. HARVEY: Regular filings and the price gap
- 6 dockets, I think, show up periodically.
- 7 MS. SUNDERLAND: And I think there are more
- 8 frequent filings with staff.
- 9 MR. HARVEY: Sam McClerren would have that stuff.
- 10 MR. BRADY: I don't dispute that we have required
- 11 posting.
- I don't know the extent to which it goes
- 13 to satisfy experts' investigation into certain
- 14 standards or requirements.
- MR. HARVEY: I think the point of this is that,
- 16 you know, to the extent we are going -- I think
- 17 staff doesn't see the need for additional hearings,
- 18 but if we were to hold them, I mean, you would
- 19 almost have to prefile testimony like today frankly
- 20 because this order does, without leave of Court,
- 21 have to issue, without question, on May 16th.
- 22 Nobody has petitioned for leave of Court.

- 1 JUDGE MORAN: Okay. We are going to stick with
- 2 that date.
- I think that even if there is some sort
- 4 of evidence to be put in supposing that your
- 5 position isn't adopted -- and I am going to allow
- 6 you to make that position, obviously -- it seems a
- 7 good thing that -- and, again, I don't know all the
- 8 details of it, that there is evidence of service
- 9 quality being reported to the Commission. That
- 10 evidence can be stipulated to even.
- 11 And I am not saying -- I am just throwing
- 12 things out.
- I am not saying that's the way to do it.
- 14 I am saying that's a possible way to do it.
- MS. SATTER: I just wanted to add that the
- 16 service quality problems that were evident in the
- 17 underlying case were certainly a basis for the
- 18 investment requirement.
- 19 JUDGE MORAN: Right.
- 20 MS. SATTER: But I think they were one basis and
- 21 there were others, and certainly if we are looking
- 22 at it today, I wouldn't want to be limited in my

- 1 review or in arguments to service quality.
- I think particularly when there has been
- 3 a merger order requirement in place that's going to
- 4 be removed or if that will expire, that adds
- 5 something to the consideration too.
- 6 There are other elements than simply the
- 7 service quality issues that were alive in -- in
- 8 2000 -- in 2002.
- 9 So I just wanted to put that on the
- 10 record, that I think it's a broader -- if you are
- 11 going to go back and look at the question of need.
- 12 JUDGE MORAN: It's not going back. It's looking
- 13 at the question of need today.
- In fact, that's what I am trying to
- 15 avoid, going back because there is no way, there is
- 16 no way to recreate and put any of ourselves in that
- 17 mindset today. That would be so unreasonable.
- 18 MS. SATTER: If we are going to do that, then
- 19 let's look at the situation overall.
- 20 JUDGE MORAN: And I am not saying you shouldn't
- 21 look at all relevant factors today, but the real
- 22 question is the question of service quality because

- 1 that was the question back then and that's what the
- 2 Court looked at.
- MS. LUSSON: We would agree with what Sue just
- 4 said.
- If you look in the actual order about why
- 6 the Commission was including the \$3 billion
- 7 investment requirement, the first thing it mentioned
- 8 was to continue to encourage innovation, to ensure
- 9 the broad dissemination of technical improvements
- 10 that reaches all classes of ratepayers, maintain
- 11 service quality and then, fourth, serve to enhance
- 12 the economic development of the state.
- 13 JUDGE MORAN: Are you reading from the order?
- 14 MS. LUSSON: My copy is Page 211 which may be an
- 15 electronic copy.
- 16 MS. SUNDERLAND: You are in the original order?
- 17 MS. LUSSON: The original order.
- 18 So I think what Sue is saying, and we
- 19 agree, is that, if we have hearings, then I don't
- 20 think that whether or not there should be a specific
- 21 capital investment figure should be contingent on
- 22 whether or not there are perceived service quality

- 1 problems per se now, that there are other legal
- 2 reasons that may not even need additional evidence
- 3 that would justify continuing the investment
- 4 obligation that, you know, wouldn't necessarily
- 5 be --
- 6 JUDGE MORAN: Yeah, but legal reasons have to
- 7 support facts, you know.
- 8 You don't get somewhere by holding onto a
- 9 principle.
- 10 MS. LUSSON: True, but the --
- 11 JUDGE MORAN: You need on real-life stuff to go
- 12 with that principle.
- 13 MS. LUSSON: But the requirements of 13506.1
- 14 require the Commission in an alternative regulatory
- 15 plan to maintain those interests in its final order.
- So I think, you know -- I guess what I am
- 17 saying is, looking at those issues wouldn't
- 18 necessarily require, you know, mounds of evidence.
- 19 You know, it's not like we are going to
- 20 have a mound of discovery on whether or not a
- 21 capital investment obligation would ensure broad
- 22 dissemination of technical improvement in the state,

- 1 for example.
- 2 JUDGE MORAN: Well, on that I am certainly not
- 3 going to make a ruling today, but my reading of this
- 4 is that that wasn't the focus of either this
- 5 Commission's ruling -- excuse me -- this
- 6 Commission's order or the Court's ruling.
- 7 The Court threw out a lot of things, but
- 8 you really have to pay attention to what it actually
- 9 said and what -- and really the scope of what it
- 10 focused on.
- 11 MS. LUSSON: I guess --
- 12 JUDGE MORAN: In other words, I am not sure that
- 13 that isn't dicta in this opinion, but, again,
- 14 everybody has the right to their opinion. I am not
- 15 ruling on that today.
- I am just throwing out some off-the-cuff
- 17 ideas.
- 18 MR. HARVEY: And I think what we need to do here
- 19 today is, if there is a disagreement about how to
- 20 proceed and if some parties believe that the
- 21 additional evidence ought to be adduced, I am
- 22 just -- I think we need to get some concrete

- 1 scheduling done, and I don't see how we do any kind
- 2 of a contested hearing in the approximately less
- 3 than four months remaining to us to do that.
- 4 JUDGE MORAN: I think that we will probably need
- 5 another status. It appears that --
- 6 MS. SUNDERLAND: We have threshold issues.
- 7 JUDGE MORAN: We have threshold issues that I am
- 8 seeing right here from SBC and from CUB. Maybe EAG.
- 9 Maybe other intervenors.
- 10 So maybe we -- and certainly everybody
- 11 isn't putting their best thoughts out orally, myself
- 12 included.
- So maybe we need a time -- an opportunity
- 14 to draft something here and discuss it in another
- 15 session.
- 16 How about that?
- 17 MS. SATTER: Provided we have --
- 18 JUDGE MORAN: But also work out a schedule that
- 19 can kick in if we need to.
- 20 How about that?
- 21 MS. LUSSON: That sounds good.
- 22 MS. SUNDERLAND: When you talk about drafting

- 1 something, what are you thinking of?
- 2 JUDGE MORAN: Well --
- 3 MS. SUNDERLAND: I was sort of assuming we'd have
- 4 an exchange of pleadings as to whether the
- 5 Commission -- A, whether the Commission has the
- 6 authority to go reopen the record and take
- 7 additional evidence under the terms of the opinion,
- 8 and, B, even if it does, whether that is something
- 9 that we should do here.
- 10 JUDGE MORAN: That's a perfect way of setting it
- 11 out.
- 12 MR. HARVEY: That's sounds reasonable.
- 13 JUDGE MORAN: That's a perfect way to set it out.
- 14 Let everybody work on that.
- 15 Let's pick a status a few days after that
- 16 which will give me time to read those things and
- 17 come out with a ruling and maybe even further
- 18 discussion with the parties on that so that you know
- 19 where I am coming from and maybe I have overlooked
- 20 something or whatever and then at the same time
- 21 proceed with a schedule.
- I am going to let you guys work on that

- 1 schedule. Okay? Work on it today.
- 2 MR. TRABARIS: And, your Honor, do you have any
- 3 thoughts on the stipulated remedy plan language?
- Is that something we shouldn't -- we are
- 5 in no hurry for obviously?
- 6 JUDGE MORAN: You probably can work with that
- 7 concurrent with this.
- 3 Just so that we have that language and
- 9 certainly it will be helpful if everybody agrees on
- 10 it by the time that I am proposing an order to the
- 11 Commission.
- MR. HARVEY: It wouldn't seem to be a major
- 13 undertaking but --
- 14 MR. TRABARIS: I think it would be a very minor
- 15 undertaking, and I am thinking about the deadline
- 16 and where to get it to you in a certain time to
- 17 bring to the Commission.
- 18 JUDGE MORAN: Work that into the schedule. Make
- 19 that a line item in the schedule.
- Okay. All right.
- 21 MS. SUNDERLAND: Are we going off the record
- 22 here?

- 1 JUDGE MORAN: Yeah. We are going off the record.
- 2 (Recess taken.)
- 3 JUDGE MORAN: The parties have agreed that there
- 4 is a scope situation here where we have to really
- 5 try and devine the intent of the opinion that the
- 6 Third District Appellate Court has given us.
- 7 With that, parties are going to file some
- 8 sort of writing in this case.
- 9 And the parties have agreed on dates at
- 10 least for this.
- 11 And those dates, Mr. Harvey, are?
- MR. HARVEY: Are respectively February 1, 2005,
- 13 for the initial pleading, however styled, and
- 14 replies on February 8, 2005, with a status
- 15 thereafter to be held on February 14th, 2005, at
- 16 10:00 a.m. without further notice.
- 17 The parties have also agreed -- or the
- 18 parties that are, I guess, going to be -- to take
- 19 part in the drafting of the remedy plan piece of
- 20 this are undertaking to submit that draft language
- 21 agreed upon by -- on March 1, 2005.
- 22 JUDGE MORAN: The parties that will be involved

- 1 with that are SBCI and AT&T and McCleod and staff.
- Okay. And parties generally agree there
- 3 is nothing to pursue, and that's why you are going
- 4 to propose language for the order, and there are no
- 5 other parties --
- 6 MR. HARVEY: Yeah, and --
- 7 JUDGE MORAN: -- that have expressed any other
- 8 interest.
- 9 MR. HARVEY: That's correct.
- 10 It's my understanding that the parties
- 11 have agreed to waive hearings on that issue and to
- 12 draft conforming language amongst ourselves.
- 13 JUDGE MORAN: Which is an excellent idea.
- Okay. What I am just thinking is that we
- 15 may need to title these pleadings on the investment
- 16 in one standard way.
- 17 MS. SUNDERLAND: That would be good.
- 18 JUDGE MORAN: Give me some ideas.
- 19 MS. SUNDERLAND: Initial brief on scope of
- 20 remand.
- 21 JUDGE MORAN: Okay.
- 22 MR. HARVEY: Regarding infrastructure investment.

- 1 MS. SUNDERLAND: Yeah.
- 2 MS. SATTER: You can just say initial briefs on
- 3 remand on infrastructure.
- 4 MR. HARVEY: Or we could call it love savage
- 5 initial brief on remand, but that would probably not
- 6 work well.
- 7 MR. TRABARIS: How about brief and reply brief.
- 8 MS. SATTER: Brief on remand.
- 9 MS. SUNDERLAND: Initial briefs on remand.
- 10 MS. SATTER: On infrastructure requirement.
- 11 MR. HARVEY: Initial brief regarding scope of
- 12 remand.
- 13 MS. SATTER: Let's make it short.
- 14 JUDGE MORAN: Why don't we call it initial brief
- 15 on scope of remand.
- MS. SUNDERLAND: Yeah, that's fine.
- MS. SATTER: So we leave off infrastructure.
- 18 JUDGE MORAN: We all know it's only going to be
- 19 on infrastructure so there is nothing else.
- 20 MR. HARVEY: Okay.
- 21 JUDGE MORAN: And thank you all so much.
- 22 And we will continue this matter to

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1 February 14, Valentine's Day, at 10:00 a.m.
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      MR. HARVEY: Let the record reflect that Mr. Pace
 3 is bringing cookies, I think.
 4
    JUDGE MORAN: That's true. So ordered.
                     (Whereupon, the hearing in the
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 6
                     above matter was continued to
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                     February 14, 2005, at 10:00 a.m.)
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